

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SEOUL 03921 120211Z
ACTION AID-59

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P 120135Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3829

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DEPT PASS AID AND USDA

EO 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAID KS
SUBJ: REVIEW OF PL-480 TITLE I PROGRAMMING AND POSSIBLE BARLEY
IMPORTS BY KOREA

REF: (A) STATE 103193, (B) SEOUL 3363, (C) STATE 88073, (D) SEOUL
3030, (E) CONGRESSIONAL PRESENTATION FOR FY-1978-ASIA PROGRAMS,
(F) STATE 235437, (G) STATE 235420

1. APPRECIATE REVIEW OF PL-480, TITLE I, PROGRAMMING FOR KOREA
CONTAINED REF (A). HOWEVER, WE BELIEVE IT USEFUL TO POINT
OUT THE FOLLOWING WHICH ARE KEYED TO REF (A):
(A) ASIDE FROM REF (E) RECEIVED HERE IN MARCH AND BRIEFING
MATERIALS FOR MARCH KOREA CG MEETING, WE WERE OFFICIALLY UNAWARE
THAT PL-480, TITLE I, ALLOCATION FOR KOREA HAD BEEN REDUCED TO
79.1 MILLION AND THAT NO FURTHER PROGRAMMING OF EITHER RICE OR
COTTON WAS PLANNED FOR FY77. IN FACT, REF (G) WHICH DEALT WITH
THIRD AMENDMENT TO FEBRUARY 18, 1976, PL-480. TITLE I, AGREE-
MENT STATED IN PARA FIVE THAT "....THE COMMODITY INCREASES DO NOT
REPRESENT A PROPOSED CY 1977 PROGRAM. THE USG HAS NOT YET COMPLE-
TED FULL YEAR COUNTRY/COMMODITY TITLE I ALLOCATIONS FOR FY 1977.
WHEN THIS PROCESS IS COMPLETED A NEW CY 77 PROPOSAL WILL BE
PRESENTED TO THE ROKG." TO OUR KNOWLEDGE THIS PROPOSAL HAS YET
TO BE PRESENTED TO THE ROKG.

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(B) IN REGARD TO FULL UNDERSTANDING OF ROKG PRIORITIES, THE COMM-
ODITIES REQUESTED IN THE TCHAH/MILLER LETTER OF JULY SECOND 1976,
WERE REFLECTED IN THE USAID'S FY 78 ANNUAL BUDGET SUBMISSION (ABS)
OF JUNE 1976, AND ATTACHMENT SIX TO THE FY 78 ABS (PL-480, TITLE
I, PROPOSAL) SUBMITTED TO FFP ON SEPTEMBER ONE, 1976; AND WE
EXPECTED THAT THESE EARLIER PL-480 IMPORT PROJECTIONS WOULD HAVE

BEEN AVAILABLE TO THE USDA PRIOR TO THE DECEMBER 16 RECEIPT FROM ROKG EMBASSY. FYI: LETTER OF JULY SECOND, 1976, REQUESTED 61,000 BALES COTTON, NOT 18,100 CONTAINED REF (A) WHICH WAS DOLLAR AMOUNT IN MILLIONS OF 1976 PL-480, TITLE I, COTTON IMPORTS. THE INFORMAL PROJECTIONOONS CONTAINED IN SEOUL 3030 REFLECTED ROKG UNDERSTANDING OF THE REQUESTED DOLS. 150.0 MILLION LEVEL OF PL-480, TITLE I, ASSISTANCE FOR FY 77 IN LIGHT OF NON-AVAILABILITY OF CORN, AS INDICATED IN DOLS. 120.8 INITIAL ALLOCATION FOR KOREA. SEOUL 3363 IS FURTHER UNOFFICIAL REQUEST/PROJECTION REFLECTING ROKG'S PREVIOUS UNDERSTANDING OF REMAINING BALANCE OF PL-480, TITLE I, FOR FY 77. BOTH THESE INDICATED BASIC ROKG INTEREST IN OBTAINING BARLEY UNDER PL-480, TITLE I; IN LATTER CASE WITH CONCURRENT REDUCTION IN AMOUNT OF WHEAT REQUESTED.

2. IN MAY 10 MEETING WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ECONOMIC PLANNING BOARD (EPB), THE CURRENT PROJECTION FOR FY-77, TITLE I, AS NOTED PARA SIX, REF (A), WAS PRESENTED. REQUEST AUTHORITY AS SOON AS POSSIBLE TO INITIATE NEGOTIATIONS FOR ADDITIONAL 410,000 MT WHEAT AT DOLS. 43.8 MILLION, FOLLOWING ISC CONSIDERATION.

3. EPB HAS BEEN REQUESTED TO PROVIDE UPDATED REQUEST AND S/D PROJECTIONS IN REGARD PROPOSED FY 78 AND FY 79 PL 480, TITLE I, PROGRAM. THESE WILL BE FORWARDED ASAP FOLLOWING RECEIPT AND REVIEW.
SNEIDER

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Message Attributes

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